

Department of Public Safety ROBERT L. FLOWERS Commissioner



GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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### FEMA Gives New Deadlines and Procedures for Rental Assistance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has notified state officials that a private company will begin taking over eligible leases currently being administered by the State of Utah and paid for under FEMA's Public Assistance Program.

As of **March 1**, all eligible leases arranged by the state are in the process of being transitioned over to Corporate Lodging Consultants (CLC). Rental assistance provided by the state through the Public Assistance program will end **March 31**. CLC is expected to have all eligible leases transitioned as of March 31.

Individuals who have registered with FEMA will be contacted by FEMA about their status and eligibility to continue receiving rental assistance. Many evacuees have already received letters from FEMA explaining this information. Individuals with questions about their eligibility for rental assistance should contact FEMA directly at **1-800-621-3362** or the Utah Katrina Hotline at **1-866-764-0506**.

FEMA has contracted with CLC to work with landlords. Landlords must register with CLC for the Landlord Direct Payment Plan. This can be done online at <a href="www.corplodging.com/femadap/index.cfm">www.corplodging.com/femadap/index.cfm</a>. Landlords may also contact CLC's Landlord support center via e-mail at <a href="mailto:femahousing@corplodging.com">femahousing@corplodging.com</a>. Or, call **1-866-362-0742** from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. MST, Mon. - Fri.

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### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Q: When does the rental assistance program end?

A: FEMA's rental assistance program administered by the state ends **March 31**. Questions regarding the continuation of leases or eligibility for continued FEMA assistance must be directed to FEMA at **1-800-621-3362**, or its contractor, Corporate Lodging Consultants (CLC) at **1-866-362-0742**.

# Q: For those who have a lease through the state's rental assistance program, living in a rental unit and receiving assistance -- how long will their rent be covered?

A: All evacuees who already signed a lease agreement with a landlord and are receiving rental assistance will be contacted by FEMA about their eligibility to continue receiving rental assistance through CLC. Those who are eligible for assistance will have their lease contracts transferred directly in their name.

# Q: What is the difference between the rental assistance program through the state and FEMA's Individual Assistance program?

A: Both programs were and are funded by FEMA. Given the catastrophic impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the State of Utah administered rental assistance for FEMA to help with the overwhelming and immediate need to provide housing assistance. This was an extraordinary situation for both the state and FEMA. In an effort to transition toward its more traditional method for administering disaster-related housing assistance, FEMA is now transferring all existing lease agreements through its direct contractor, Corporate Lodging Consultants (CLC).

# Q: What if a tenant already has a lease agreement, living in a rental unit and receiving assistance. Should they contact FEMA?

A: Yes. However, as of **March 1**, FEMA, is contacting each tenant directly about their status and eligibility to continue receiving rental assistance. Questions about what types of assistance they may continue to receive beyond March 31 must be directed to FEMA at **1-800-621-3362**.

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Q: How do you learn about the different types of assistance available?

A: Contact FEMA at 1-800-621-3362, or the Utah Katrina Hotline at 1-866-764-0506.

Q: What if I'm a landlord?

A: Landlords currently providing evacuee housing, in order to receive payment for qualified evacuees beginning **March 1**, **MUST** register with Corporate Lodging Consultants (CLC) for an account.

Q: What if an evacuee wants to know if they are eligible for assistance from FEMA or wants to check the status of their FEMA registration?

A: To register with FEMA for assistance or check registration status, contact 1-800-621-3362.